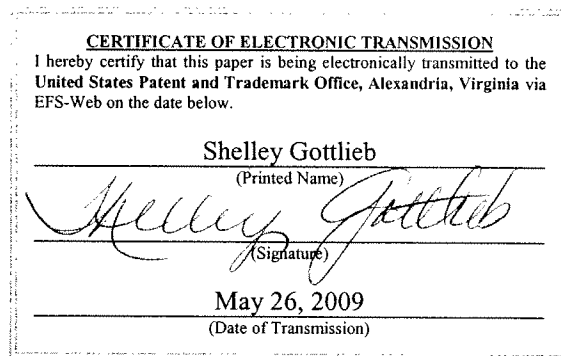


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Manuel Gaudon *et al.*
Title: METHOD FOR PREPARING
METAL OXIDE LAYERS
Appl. No.: 10/561,581
International Filing Date: 6/17/2004
371(c) Date: 12/19/2005
Examiner: Nathan H. Empie
Art Unit: 1792
Confirmation Number: 6470



AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated November 25, 2008, concerning the above-referenced patent application. This Office Action set a shortened statutory period of three months to reply. Accordingly, this response is timely filed on or before its due date of May 26, 2009 (May 25, 2009 being Memorial Day) with a petition and fees for a three month extension of time.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this document.